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Area Wage Survey
Phoenix, AZ
June 1985

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U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Summary
August 1985

This summary presents results of a June 1985 survey of occupational wages in the Phoenix Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, which consists of Maricopa County. This is 1 of 99 areas which the Bureau of Labor Statistics surveys at the request of the Employment Standards Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor for use in administering the Service Contract Act of 1965. In addition, the Bureau conducts more extensive studies of occupational wages and related benefits in 71 other areas throughout the United States. For information on these reports and other Bureau publications, contact any BLS regional office identified on the back page.

This study covered establishments employing 50 workers or more in manufacturing; transportation, communication, and other public utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and selected services. A sample of 121 establishments employing 93,610 workers was selected to represent 1,088 establishments employing 282,361 workers in the area. (See table 2 for further information on the scope of the survey.) Data collected in the sample of establishments were projected to represent all establishments within the scope of the survey.

Table 1 provides hourly earnings information on office and plant workers employed in selected occupations common to a variety of industries. Occupational classification was based on a uniform set of job descriptions designed to take account of variations in job duties among establishments. The job descriptions used in the survey are available on request.

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Table 1. Hourly earnings[1] of selected occupations in Phoenix, AZ, June 1985

Occupation[2]	Number of workers	Hourly earnings (all workers)[3]			Number of workers receiving straight-time hourly earnings (in dollars) of —																							
		Mean	Median	Middle range	3.35 and under 3.50	3.50 – 4.00	4.00 – 4.50	4.50 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.50	5.50 – 6.00	6.00 – 6.50	6.50 – 7.00	7.00 – 7.50	7.50 – 8.00	8.00 – 8.50	8.50 – 9.00	9.00 – 9.50	9.50 – 10.00	10.00 – 10.50	10.50 – 11.00	11.00 – 11.50	11.50 – 12.00	12.00 – 13.00	13.00 – 14.00	14.00 – 15.00	15.00 – 16.00	16.00 and over
Secretaries	2,537	8.50	8.39	7.14– 9.75	–	–	–	8	54	97	155	265	267	299	215	280	220	179	160	170	85	99	61	8	2	7	–
Secretaries I	322	6.67	6.50	6.02– 7.51	–	–	–	5	18	50	48	109	13	53	23	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Secretaries II	514	7.78	7.44	6.92– 8.40	–	–	–	–	4	1	60	26	60	91	93	57	51	91	18	30	20	1	10	1	–	–	–
Secretaries III	612	8.50	8.40	7.50– 9.72	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	17	32	20	30	96	64	49	91	53	20	34	8	7	2	7	–
Secretaries IV	480	9.70	9.67	8.8C–10.63	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Typists	197	5.61	5.48	4.91– 6.23	–	9	5	39	52	25	35	26	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Typists I	179	5.55	5.48	4.91– 6.10	–	9	5	39	52	25	17	26	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Word processors	324	7.16	7.29	6.48– 7.58	–	–	–	–	6	32	53	37	109	38	18	20	3	1	2	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Word processors I	190	6.77	6.72	6.00– 7.43	–	–	–	–	6	32	35	27	69	13	8	1	2	1	2	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Word processors II	134	7.72	7.42	7.07– 8.14	–	–	–	–	–	–	18	10	41	25	10	19	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
File clerks	378	4.96	4.71	4.05– 5.38	–	66	57	81	94	22	8	40	7	2	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
File clerks I	161	4.35	4.04	3.85– 4.95	–	66	47	23	37	6	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
File clerks II	161	5.47	5.05	4.67– 6.83	–	–	10	58	37	11	3	37	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Messengers	37	4.40	4.35	4.34– 4.48	–	–	36	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Receptionists	110	5.30	4.91	4.91– 5.78	–	–	4	61	12	13	14	4	1	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
Switchboard operators	264	5.46	5.28	4.60– 6.10	–	–	54	59	38	25	40	26	7	7	5	–	–	2	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
Key entry operators	728	6.79	6.42	5.92– 7.49	–	–	–	8	62	113	179	89	65	66	13	14	63	5	7	12	1	–	–	1	–	–	–
Key entry operators I	404	6.24	6.05	5.50– 6.55	–	–	–	8	65	81	104	63	23	29	2	–	1	5	–	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Key entry operators II	324	7.48	7.23	6.39– 8.84	–	–	–	–	7	32	75	26	42	38	11	14	62	–	7	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Computer operators	736	9.24	9.34	7.59–10.77	–	–	–	51	–	18	27	23	56	69	50	51	37	61	47	60	18	25	74	36	13	–	–
Computer operators I	237	6.98	7.00	5.92– 8.00	–	–	–	51	–	12	16	23	41	23	33	29	6	3	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–
Computer operators II	319	9.48	9.75	8.20–10.58	–	–	–	–	–	6	11	–	15	45	13	14	16	15	6	11	10	7	22	51	32	13	–	–
Computer operators III	180	11.77	12.10	10.47–13.19	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	4	4	4	3	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Peripheral equipment operators	19	8.18	8.28	7.80– 8.97	–	–	–	–	–	1	2	–	–	4	–	4	3	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Drafters	688	9.92	10.26	8.00–11.80	–	–	8	8	10	25	79	15	8	14	19	43	40	50	46	43	56	76	75	35	14	15	9
Drafters I	68	5.56	5.65	5.00– 6.45	–	–	8	8	5	24	22	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Drafters II	140	7.23	6.92	6.00– 8.91	–	–	–	–	5	–	57	12	8	14	2	21	21	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Drafters III	167	10.05	10.18	9.23–11.00	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	2	–	–	17	21	13	30	20	24	19	32	5	–	–	–	–
Drafters IV	151	11.38	11.33	10.39–11.88	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	6	20	16	15	28	29	19	10	2	5	–
Drafters V	145	12.87	12.73	11.77–13.43	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	10	10	7	16	19	10	4	9	15	51	25	12	10	9
Electronics technicians	736	12.54	12.00	11.07–14.08	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	13	17	68	10	35	102	3	–	106	–	–
Electronics technicians II	360	11.78	11.50	10.20–14.08	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Maintenance carpenters	65	12.26	12.22	10.70–13.10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	1	2	7	8	2	7	13	12	–	–	*10
Maintenance painters	30	13.37	14.52	12.85–14.52	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	8	3	18	–	–
Maintenance machinists	275	13.96	15.16	13.37–15.16	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	30	–	10	20	70	5	135	5
Maintenance mechanics (machinery)	1,195	12.82	12.22	11.64–15.*6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	42	–	63	8	50	40	61	111	262	153	–	405	–
Motor vehicle mechanics	804	12.29	12.30	11.50–12.67	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	7	8	16	16	30	39	27	125	371	92	20	–	50
General maintenance workers	642	7.30	6.75	5.90– 9.15	–	–	20	44	29	81	92	74	61	32	35	10	26	27	34	69	–	–	4	4	–	–	–
Tool and die makers	68	13.81	14.06	13.63–14.43	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	–	4	10	49	–	–
Stationary engineers	131	13.85	13.99	13.45–14.52	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	2	2	2	3	8	57	46	–	10

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Hourly earnings[1] of selected occupations in Phoenix, AZ, June 1985 —Continued

Occupation[2]	Number of workers	Hourly earnings (all workers)[1]			Number of workers receiving straight-time hourly earnings (in dollars) of —																						
		Mean	Median	Middle range	3.35 and under 3.50	3.50 – 4.00	4.00 – 4.50	4.50 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.50	5.50 – 6.00	6.00 – 6.50	6.50 – 7.00	7.00 – 7.50	7.50 – 8.00	8.00 – 8.50	8.50 – 9.00	9.00 – 9.50	9.50 – 10.00	10.00 – 10.50	10.50 – 11.00	11.00 – 11.50	11.50 – 12.00	12.00 – 13.00	13.00 – 14.00	14.00 – 15.00	15.00 – 16.00	16.00 and over
Truckdrivers	3,294	10.30	10.50	8.50–12.83	–	–	58	40	146	18	56	94	183	187	59	42	83	214	422	535	181	3	377	600	11	2	3
Truckdrivers, light truck	142	5.90	6.30	4.90– 6.50	–	–	58	1	–	2	26	30	2	–	11	10	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–
Truckdrivers, medium truck	315	7.20	5.20	5.30– 9.25	–	–	–	38	146	12	–	–	6	18	–	16	5	15	–	1	5	–	–	40	13	–	–	–
Truckdrivers, heavy truck	1,324	10.13	10.50	9.85–10.91	–	–	–	1	–	4	9	46	107	11	5	6	40	125	264	478	166	1	13	46	1	1	–
Truckdrivers, tractor-trailer	1,095	11.49	12.83	10.25–13.03	–	–	–	–	–	–	21	–	–	140	1	10	23	38	158	58	10	–	324	302	10	1	3
Shipping packers	74	6.61	7.00	5.75– 7.00	–	–	–	–	–	20	10	–	42	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Material handling laborers	351	5.80	5.50	5.00– 6.80	–	–	6	66	90	53	44	44	36	5	2	1	2	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Forklift operators	724	8.35	8.23	6.65– 9.43	–	–	21	42	1	52	31	84	39	79	16	5	244	–	–	–	50	–	60	–	–	–	–
Guards	2,652	5.44	5.00	3.60– 7.00	364	502	192	183	266	282	136	39	292	114	59	46	47	13	18	100	1	–	1	–	–	–	–
Guards I	1,495	4.62	3.60	3.50– 5.70	358	498	110	36	98	128	62	15	52	22	38	37	38	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Guards II	481	7.67	7.00	6.25–10.05	–	–	–	24	48	24	32	22	98	30	21	9	9	8	18	100	1	–	1	–	–	–	–
Janitors, porters, and cleaners	2,261	4.51	3.75	3.45– 5.00	827	647	244	172	123	98	53	35	143	–	25	41	62	19	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–

[1] Excludes premium pay for overtime and for work on weekends, holidays, and late shifts. Also excluded are performance bonuses and lump-sum payments of the type negotiated in the auto and aerospace industries, as well as profit-sharing payments, attendance bonuses, Christmas or year-end bonuses, and other nonproduction bonuses. Cost of living allowances and incentive payments, however, are included. Hourly earnings reported for salaried workers are derived from regular salaries divided by the corresponding standard hours of work. The wages of learners, apprentices, and handicapped workers are excluded. The mean is computed for each job by totaling the earnings of all workers and dividing by the number of workers. The median designates position—one-half of the workers receive the same as or more and one-half receive the same as or less than the rate shown. The middle range is defined by two rates of pay; one-fourth of the workers earn the same as or less than the lower of these rates and one-fourth earn the same as or more than the higher rate.

[2] For occupations with more than one level, data are included in the overall classification when a subclassification is not shown or information to subclassify is not available.

[3] All workers were at $16.00 to $17.00.

Table 2. Establishments and workers within scope of survey and number studied in Phoenix, AZ,[1] June 1985

Industry division[2]	Minimum employment in establishments in scope of survey	Number of establishments		Workers in establishments		
		Within scope of survey[3]	Studied	Within scope of survey[3]		Studied
				Number	Percent	
All divisions	50	1,088	121	282,361	100	93,810
Manufacturing	50	245	25	85,394	30	34,833
Nonmanufacturing[4]	50	843	96	196,967	70	58,777

[1] The Phoenix Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget through February 1974, consists of Maricopa County. The "workers within scope of survey" estimates shown in this table provide a reasonably accurate description of the size and composition of the labor force included in the survey. The estimates are not intended, however, to serve as a basis of comparison with other statistical series for the area to measure employment trends or levels since (1) planning of wage surveys requires the use of establishment data compiled considerably in advance of the payroll period studied, and (2) small establishments are excluded from the scope of the survey.

[2] The 1972 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification Manual was used in classifying establishments by industry division.

[3] Includes all establishments with total employment at or above the minimum limitation. All outlets of companies in such industries as trade, finance, auto repair service, and motion picture theaters (within a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area or nonmetropolitan county) are considered as one establishment.

[4] Includes all workers in all establishments with total employment (within the area) at or above the minimum limitation.

[5] Includes transportation, communication, and other public utilities (excluding taxicabs and services incidental to water transportation); wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; hotels and other lodging places; laundries and other personal services; automobile repair, rental, and parking; motion pictures; nonprofit membership organizations (excluding religious and charitable organizations); engineering and architectural services; and miscellaneous business services. Major industries excluded from this survey are agriculture; mining; construction; some services (notably educational institutions and medical services); and government operations.

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